Linguistic Minorities

1124. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a commission for linguistic minorities to look into their problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any study or survey regarding the problems of linguistic minorities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There already exist an office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities (commonly known as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities). It was created in July, 1957 in pursuance of the provisions of Article 350B of the Constitution of India. Under the said Article, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to investigate all matters relating tc the safeguards provided for the Linguistic Minorities under the Constitution and report to the President upon these at such intervals as the President may direct.

(d) No, Sir, as this work has been assigned to the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

(e) Does not arise.

{Translation]

Voluntary Organisations in U.P

1125. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the women voluntary organisations receiving assistance from the Central fund in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Meerut division;

(b) the names of the schemes formulated by these women voluntary organisations for the social upliftment of Scheduled Caste women; and

(c) the financial assistance provided for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) There are no Women Voluntary Organisations funded by Ministry of Welfare in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Target of Procurement of Wheat

1126. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed some target for the procurement of wheat in various states;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in respect of those States which could not be able to achieve the fixed target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The procurement of wheat under Price Support Scheme is voluntary in nature, and only the wheat offered by the farmers can be purchased. As such, no target for procurement of wheat is fixed in any State.

(c) Does not arise.

Allocation of Palm Oil to Karnataka

1127. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of palm oil per month in Karnataka under Public Distribution System;

(b) the quantity released during each of the last three years till June, 1997;

(c) whether the State has requested to enhance the quantity of Palm oil;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to release the entire quantity of palm oil required under PDS to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Government of Karnataka has indicated a monthly demand of 2500 MT of imported edible oil for the PDS during the current year 1997-98.

(b) The allocation of imported palmolein to Karnataka during the last 3 years has been as follows:—

Qty. in MTs.

Financial year	Allocation
1994-95	8500
1995-96	11000
1996-97	10000

(c) The monthly requirement of palmolein from Karnataka has reduced from 3000 MT per month in 1996-97 to 2500 MT per month in 1997-98.

(d) and (e) Government's edible oil import programme for the PDS during 1997-98 has not yet been finalised.

Central Assistance for Agricultural Projects in Assam

1128. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Assam seeking Central assistance for undertaking various agricultural projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) A list of schemes implemented during 1996-97 by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to assist the Government of Assam in accelerating agricultural development is enclosed as Statement. No proposals for any new scheme have been received from the State Government during the current year.

Statement

List of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes Implemented in Assam During 1996-97

S. No.	Name of Scheme
1	2
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme—Rice.
2.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System.
3.	Special Jute Development Programme.
4.	National Pulses Development Project.
5.	Oilseeds Production Programme.
6.	Oil Palm Dev. Programme.
7.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
8.	Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilizers.
9.	Development of Fertilizer use in low Consumption & Rainfed Areas.
10.	National Project and Tech. Mission on Development and use of Bio-fertilizers.
11.	Integrated Seed Development Scheme.
12.	National Programme for Varietal Development.
13.	Streamlining of certified Seeds production of important Identified Vegetable Crops.
14.	N.S.P. III.
15.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Integrated Pest Management Centres.
16.	Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
17.	Exchange of Farmers within the Country.
18.	Farmers Scientists Interaction.